

8.1.6.d *Pasatiempo (Q 3)*

Site Description and Existing Conditions

The Pasatiempo (Q 3) site is located east of Pasatiempo Avenue near the intersection with Caminito Tenedor in the Navajo Community Planning Area. This 10.7-acre parcel is owned and managed by the City of San Diego Real Estate Assets Division and is not conserved. The site is outside the MHPA and is zoned for Open Space. Adjacent land uses include residential and transportation. Although general interest has been expressed in development in the past, no permit applications have been submitted for review.

Ten vernal pools (166.3 m² total area [1790.04 ft²]) were mapped in 2005. Non-native grasslands and disturbed coastal sage scrub occur in Redding gravelly loams; no sensitive vernal pool species were observed, and fairy shrimp surveys were not conducted. The site has been impacted by trash, non-native species and historic grading.

Threats

Development

This site is owned by the City of San Diego and is zoned as Open Space; however, the site is not connected to larger open space areas, is outside the MHPA and is not conserved.

Invasive Species

There are many non-native species, including grasses and *Chrysanthemum* spp., which may be a major factor in the lack of sensitive vernal pool plant species.

Trespass/Litter

The site is unfenced and is at risk from BMX activity and foot traffic.

Fire and Fire Suppression

The long-term impact of fire on vernal pool plants and animals appears to be minimal (see Post Fire Evaluation of Vernal Pools [City of San Diego MSCP Monitoring Report, 2004]). Due to the developed nature of the surrounding area, this site may be used as a staging site in the event of a wildland fire.

Required Management Activities

No management activities are planned or on-going.

Management Recommendations

If the site is conserved, restoration and creation activities should be considered to improve habitat for sensitive species. Restoration and reintroduction efforts shall utilize seeds from within the smallest possible geographic range, in the following order, as necessary: complex, series, geographic region (i.e. Otay Mesa).

Fencing and/or signage should be installed and maintained to minimize impacts to sensitive species.

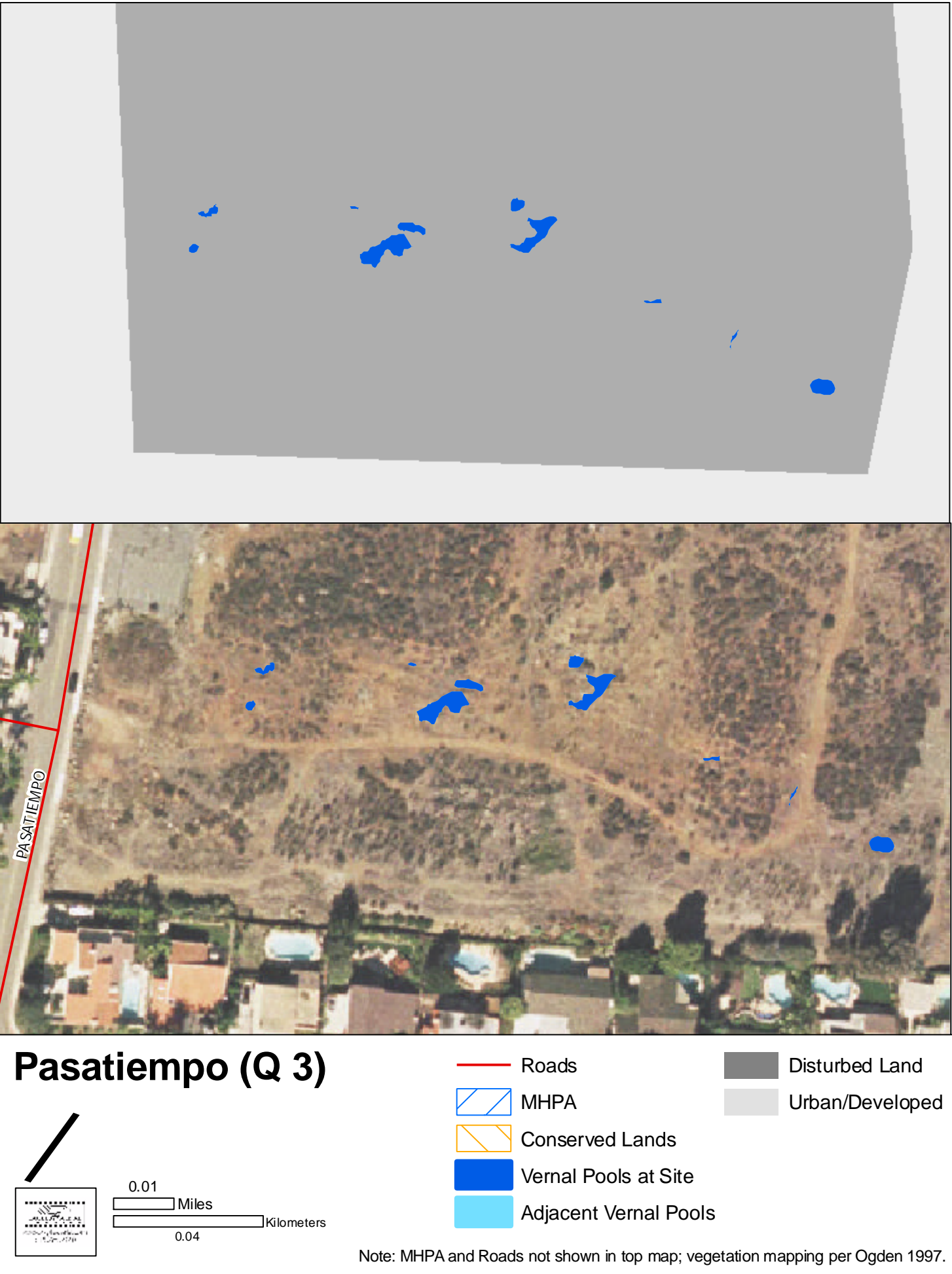
Weed control efforts should be conducted annually, as necessary. Weeding within and immediately adjacent to vernal pools should be done by hand. In upland

areas, mechanical removal may be necessary; however, herbicides should not be used in or adjacent to vernal pools.

If the site is conserved, it should be dedicated as open space through the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department Open Space Division.

Given the proximity to residential neighborhoods, it is recommended that educational programs be provided through local schools, Home-Owner's Associations (HOAs), community groups, etc. These sessions should stress the sensitivity of the resources and discuss the importance of minimizing litter, trespass and other impacts at the site. Informed neighborhood groups may also conduct maintenance activities under the supervision of a qualified biologist. All programs should strive to present information in a manner that will increase interest in the natural world and cultivate a sense of ownership of local open space, with the overall goal of developing positive neighborhood awareness of the preserve.

Figure 36



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8.1.6.e *Lake Murray (Q 4)*

Site Description and Existing Conditions

The Lake Murray (Q 4) vernal pool is located on a small, remaining natural area at Lake Murray Community Park in the Navajo Community Planning Area. The area is accessed from Murray Park Drive, and is adjacent to the western side of the gravel parking lot behind the baseball diamond. The site is zoned Active Parks, and is owned and managed by the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department. The vernal pool area is partially conserved and partially within the MHPA.

The vernal pool is 90.54 m² (974.564 ft²), of natural origin and occurs within Tujunga sands. Upland vegetation at the site is primarily disturbed coastal sage scrub/chamise chaparral and ruderal. No sensitive vernal pool species were observed.

Threats

Development

It is unlikely that additional development for recreation usage would occur in the vernal pool area.

Invasive Species

Non-native ornamental species are present in the adjacent landscaped area.

Edge Effects

Litter was noted as well as non-native ornamental species. It is likely that this vernal pool is impacted occasionally by bikes and foot traffic.

Fire and Fire Suppression

High intensity fire and related suppression activities are unlikely due to the developed nature of the surrounding areas.

Current Management Activities

This site is managed by the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department.

Management Recommendations

As funding becomes available, install signage containing information on the sensitive natural resources. A qualified biologist should assess the site for non-native, invasive species, and should recommend and implement a removal plan, if necessary. Weeding within and immediately adjacent to vernal pools should be done by hand. In upland areas, mechanical removal may be necessary; however, herbicides should not be used in or adjacent to vernal pools. The site should be utilized for educational purposes due to its location within a community park.

Figure 37

